



Fort Riley Sports

September 6, 2002

America's Warfighting Center

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K-State to honor Fort Riley soldiers

By Emily O'Connor
K-State Intern

Kansas State University will salute Fort Riley and its soldiers when the K-State Wildcats take on the Eastern Illinois Panthers on Sept. 14. "The (K-State) Athletic Department wanted to do something special to not only honor our Fort Riley neighbors, but to remember the one year anniversary of Sept. 11th," Melynda Stein, K-State Athletics Department assistant director of marketing and promotions, said. "We wanted to show that some things are bigger than sports and need to be remembered and come from."

According to Teresa Mayes of the Fort Riley Information, Ticketing and Reservations office, tickets to the game are being offered to soldiers at a special discounted rate.

"Right now we have a limited number of tickets to the game available for \$16," Mayes said. "This half price rate has been made available for soldiers so that they can go out and enjoy the game."

Special Fort Riley displays will be showcased in and around stadium grounds on game day, according to Scott Price, Fort Riley community relations officer. The Garrison flag will be unfolded and refolded on the field by soldiers. The Fort Riley Honor Guard, dismounted, will be posting the colors for the game, as well as having an encampment by the stadium including horses, a wagon, tack and a display. A static display of various types of military equipment will be outside the stadium for fans to view. Blackhawk helicopters will also fly over the stadium on game day.

"We realize how hard these young men and women work to defend our country and would like to do what we can to thank them for all that they do," Stein said.

To purchase your discounted tickets for the game, stop by the ITR office, building 6918, near the PX, or call 239-5614 or 239-4415. The ITR office is open Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. and Saturdays, 8 a.m. - noon.

"K-State fans that enter KSU Stadium on Sept. 14, can expect to see a very patriotic flavor added to their regular game day routine," Stein said. "With the help of Fort Riley, this game is meant to honor and recognize the events of Sept. 11th and to help remind everyone once again how great it is to be an American, no matter what football team you have an alliance with. It will definitely be an event any K-State fan will not want to miss."

Local soldier makes All Army Softball Team

By Steven Cooke
Staff Writer

A Fort Riley soldier recently came home after playing with All Army Softball Team.

"It was a really good accomplishment," said Sgt. Lee Diaz, supply noncommissioned officer in charge, Battery D, 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery. "In my first year, I was a starting short stop. I was chosen [to be on the team] my first time applying. Some guys apply five or six times."

Diaz explained how the chance to play on the All Army Softball Team came about.

A long time lover of softball, Diaz had played in many battalion and battery level softball games on Fort Riley. One day, Intramural Coordinator Barry Sunstrom, noticed Diaz and asked him if he knew about the AAST. Sunstrom encouraged Diaz to send in a resume. So, Diaz did. Two months later he received a letter informing him he had been selected to fly down to Fort Hood, Texas, to try out.

"I was real honored to represent Fort Riley and my unit," said Diaz.

Diaz said that it was he and 35 other soldiers trying out for only 14 spots on the team. During the four weeks of softball camp, soldiers practiced and played in B-class tournaments against Army and civilian teams. At the end of each week, players would be cut from the team.

Diaz was surprised to have

made to the final 14.

"I learned that I wasn't as good as I thought I was," said Diaz. "Coming from Fort Riley, everyone tells you you're the best on Fort Riley. I went down a little air headed."

Diaz quickly learned at Fort Hood, that players like himself were a dime a dozen.

"Everybody is as good as you are," explained Diaz. "A lot of people don't know how to adapt to that. They think they're the best player, but as it turns out, you're just another ball player."

Another test for Diaz was the physical training.

"The PT was real hard," said Diaz. "A lot harder than I expected. They do more PT than we do here. You have to be in real good shape."

Once the team was selected, Diaz said the other players were issued their uniforms and equipment and they were flown to Pensacola, Fla., to play against the Navy, Air Force and Marines in the Armed Forces Tournament.

Before the tournament began, Diaz admitted he was nervous.

"I was real nervous," said Diaz. The tournament leaders had their way of easing the tension.

"We had an icebreaker and a dinner the night before the first game," said Diaz. "Everybody wore their team polo shirts to dinner. We got to talk to everybody and got to know each other."

Diaz, who was previously in the Marines, realized he knew six of the players on the Marine team.

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Western Kentucky's Senior Tailback Jon Frazier is brought down by K-State's Junior Tight End Travon Magee. K-State clobbered the Hilltoppers with a score of 48-3.

Kansas State 'Cats' win season opener

By Deb Skidmore
Media Relations Officer

The Kansas State University Wildcats hosted their season opener Saturday against the Western Kentucky University Hilltoppers. A crowd of nearly 46,000 turned out to see how well K-State Head Coach Bill Snyder had molded the team for the 2002 season.

It was a day of tests and anticipation. Quarterback Marc Dunn had been given the helm of the Wildcats. He and Eli Roberson continue to battle for the top Cat position. Dunn played in Roberson's shadow most of last season. Dunn was given the green light to start the game.

The first quarter found Dunn going to sophomore running back Darren Sproles seven of 11 plays before sophomore Joe Rheem put three on the board from the 36 yard line with a field goal.

The K-State defense stopped the Hilltoppers cold with loss of yards and a quick three up and three out. However, Dunn wasn't able to elude the Hilltoppers and found himself sacked twice and stripped of the ball causing a fumble before the Cats also had to turn the ball back to Western Kentucky.

The next Cat possession found Dunn and Sproles connecting again. Sproles was the go to guy taking the Cats close to a goal on a fourth and two. Freshman Fullback Ayo Saba had the honor of putting the first touchdown on the board for the 2002 season.

With a kick from Rheem, the score was 10-0.

In the second quarter, Western Kentucky closed in on the goal but had to resort to a field goal attempt at 42 yards. A mistake, a fake, a pass and a tip upped the tempo of the game as KSU senior Bobby Walker caught the tip and ran 73 yards for a Wildcat score. With Rheem adding another after point, the score was 17-0.

Momentum continued to build for K-State as junior Danny Morris put his mark on the game with a touch down. This TD came in only three plays in 1:01 minutes. Rheem added another point after and the score was 24-0.

Western Kentucky was feeling the heat of the Cats. Their quarterback, Jason Michael, was sacked hard and in his haste to get rid of the ball, found it tipped and intercepted by KSU senior Terence Newman.

Sproles took the ball in for another TD and Rheem kicked the point after. The score was 31-0.

It was at this point Wildcat fans found Roberson taking over the quarterback position. However, Roberson had his problems. He had several incomplete passes and an 18 yard fumble loss that hung over his head like a dark cloud.

Rheem was the shining star for the Wildcats as he kicked another field goal just before half time. The score was 34-0.

After half, Roberson again led the Wildcats but was recharged. He powered the Cats down the field in nine plays for 69 yards in 3:41 minutes for another TD. Roberson was the one to scramble over the goal line. Rheem padded the score with another extra point. The



K-State Cornerback Bobby Walker is congratulated by Free Safety Rashad Washington after Walker caught an interception and ran in for another K-State touchdown.

score was 41-0. Roberson took the Cats within the scoring distance again in the fourth quarter only to be sacked for a 14 yard loss. Jared Britte, junior, was brought in to kick a field goal and was unable to recover Roberson's mistake. KSU was shut out.

Western Kentucky struggled for yards but came up with a field goal with 7:18 left on the clock. They had points on the

board and the score was 41-3.

The final nail came to the Hilltoppers' coffin when Saba took the ball in for another TD and Britte made the point after. KSU ended their first game on top 48-3. K-State fans proudly hailed their purple and white, but left wondering whether it would be Dunn or Roberson to take the helm Sept. 7 when the Wildcats take on Louisiana-Monroe in Manhattan at 6:10 p.m.

Preservation of natural resources important to Fort Riley's success

By Gihnan Suleiman
DES Biologist

The unique natural history of Fort Riley sets itself apart, making it a tremendous asset to America's Army. Today's military mission faces difficult challenges in balancing conservation of training lands and providing sustained realistic training opportunities. That is where Fort Riley is a resounding success for the Army. The tallgrass prairie and America's Army have been able to happily co-exist for over a century.

Much of the valuable training the soldiers receive on Fort Riley is largely supported by the dynamics of the prairie,

The grasses that cover the prairie and hold soils in place are extremely resilient. The grasses evolved "knowing" that at times they would be damaged by herds of bison and even grasshoppers. Grasses are fueled by over thirty inches of rain most years and direct sunlight uninterrupted by overhead

trees. They "learned" how to survive the frequent fires, which hold the trees at bay. When a training area in a desert ecosystem is damaged, it can take decades to recover, whereas areas on Fort Riley can recover in a fraction of the time.

Fort Riley is also successful because very little training land is impacted by

threatened and endangered species (TES) issues. Luckily, the four federally TES on Fort Riley are strongly associated with river and stream habitats and not the tallgrass prairie where most of the training

On the Wildside: News About Nature

occurs. The Directorate of Environment and Safety, G3 and the Staff Judge Advocate developed guidelines on proper management of TES on Fort Riley. And, due to a high level of support from trainers and activities, such as the Directorate of Public Works and the Installation Restoration Program, TES on Fort Riley find an environment well suited to their

needs. As we look into the future, it is extremely important that we strive to maintain a high quality prairie to help prevent future listings of grassland birds such as the Henslow's sparrow and greater prairie-chicken. Like every ecosystem, the tallgrass prairie can only withstand so much pressure before showing signs of trouble.

When training in the field, mechanized units are required to follow some simple guidelines, not only to help alleviate damage to the training area, but to also better support their mission. When moving cross-country, soldiers should utilize the hardened tank trails as much as possi-

ble. Although traveling in the ditch along the side of the trail will give you a lower profile, it also causes severe erosion, which creates a training hazard and can damage streams. When moving off-road it is best to try to maintain a single lane of travel. This creates less damage to the area and makes it harder for the opposing force to determine how much and what kind of equipment you have. When crossing a stream it is very important to use a hardened crossing. Not doing so could get equipment stuck or damaged. Some streams on post have an endangered fish species living within them that require clean water. When turning, try to avoid

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Cyan Magenta Yellow Black



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Ghostriders win Men's Company Level Slow Pitch Tournament

By Christopher Selmek
19th PAD

The 24th Infantry Division Ghostriders played two games against the 523rd Military Police Battalion Enforcers Aug. 28 for the championship game of the Men's Company Level Slow Pitch Softball Tournament, winning first 13-11 and then 23-16.

The Ghostrider's come-from-behind victory in the first game was seen by many players as fair revenge for the Enforcer's similar victory the last time the two teams

played.

"They're a good team," said Sean Sullivan, Enforcer catcher. "We played them last night and beat them, but this time, who knows."

"I always try to have confidence that we'll win," said Mike Kindelberg, Ghostrider left fielder. "They're a good team, but if we play our game, hit like we're supposed to and don't make too many errors, we have a good chance of winning."

The game got off to a slow start when no runs were scored in the

first inning of the first game, but things wouldn't stay slow for long. The first run of the game was scored by Enforcer coach Mike Mondoux.

The Ghostriders battled back by putting two runs on the board. The second inning ended with a 2-1 Ghostrider lead, typical for two teams that have had close games all season.

"Close only counts in grenades and horseshoes," said Enforcer Jason Bennett, responding to thoughts that the Ghostriders and the Enforcers had been very evenly matched throughout the season. "Close isn't good enough to beat us. They're good, we're great."

Bennett then added that "pressure busts pipes," meaning that he expected to apply mid-game pressure to the other side and ruin their resolve.

The third inning ended 4-3, with the Enforcers still in the lead, but no one dared to believe that the game was anywhere near over.

"It's been up and down; they won one, we won one, they won one, we won one," said Chad Sharritt, Ghostrider right fielder. "They beat us last night so we owe them."

Early in the fourth inning the Enforcers had their big inning, sending hit after hit bouncing out across the dirt and into the outfield, scoring a total of seven runs before the inning was up. The Enforcers, on a roll in the bottom half of the fourth inning, allowed the Ghostriders to score only one run. The inning ended with an Enforcer lead of 11-4.

Despite the huge lead, both sides were still skeptical that this foretold any particular end to the game. One player got the impression that both teams had become so used to the struggle between them that they knew enough not to make predictions.

"None of us can see into the future," said Mondoux during the game. "I'd love to say that this is what we're going to run away with, but I'd be crazy to assume that."

Little happened in the fifth inning, as the Ghostriders sent down the Enforcers, in order, while scoring four runs themselves.

The Ghostriders were potentially saved by William "Hank" Jones, who was the most vocal member of the team in cheering them on to victory.

"This is far from over," Hank said at one point. "We still have a game to win."

The Ghostriders narrowed the lead even more in the sixth inning when Ron Ewing hit a three-run home run, his fourth of the day. Mondoux, in the bottom half of the inning, followed with a home run of his own, though the next two batters were called out and the inning ended at 13-11; Ghostriders in the lead. Even this they would not accept as the end.

No runs were scored in the final inning for either team. The Ghostriders put the Enforcers down in order, and the game ended with the Ghostriders ahead by two.

But, because this was the

Enforcers first loss in a double-elimination tournament, they had to play a second game.

When asked for a prediction on how the second game of the night would go, both teams were equally uncertain, as they had been before.

"We played these guys last night and it was back and forth the whole way," said Derek Baxter, Enforcer left-center fielder. "It's still anybody's game."

The game started with what looked like an excellent omen for the Ghostriders, the first two batters hit singles, then Ewing hit yet another home run. After that, the base runners seemed unstoppable.

"It's going to take ten this inning," Hank playfully predicted, and he was very nearly correct. The first inning ended 9-0, with the Ghostriders showing a definite lead after the Enforcers first three fly balls were caught.

The Ghostriders continued to tack on points in the second inning, scoring a seemingly endless string of runs, with everything from singles to home runs. The Enforcers inched themselves closer, but seemed to have difficulty facing the overwhelming confidence of the opposing team.

The second inning ended 14-3. Both teams looked to the come-from-behind victories they had played against each other in the past and would not let their hopes get too high.

"There's not too much strategy to softball," said Ghostrider extra hitter Julius Thomas. "Our intent is just to stay ahead, now."

Somehow, the Enforcers managed to hold the Ghostriders down for the next three innings, denying them any runs. At the same time, they steadily increased their score from three in the second inning to five, 11, and finally 14 at the end of the fifth inning.

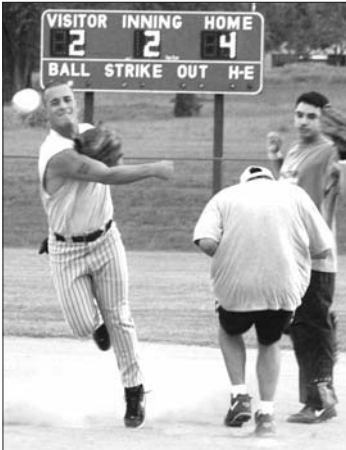
In the sixth inning, the Enforcers raised their score to 16.

It was down to the seventh and final inning, and still anybody's game, when the rally started for the Ghostriders. With the bases loaded, Hank stepped up to the plate. Mondoux wound up, Hank extended and blasted a line drive over the fence for a grand slam. As he rounded the bases, his entire team ran out of the dug out, whooping and hollering in exhilaration.

From that game-winning hit, the Enforcers were unable to recover. The game ended 23-16 for the Ghostriders, making them company level champions for the second year in a row.

Bennett later said that the game went very well. "They thought they had us in the beginning, but we made them work."

"It feels good," said Thomas. "It feels great. In fact, it feels excellent to be repeat champions."



Paul Sherry

Lee Diaz, Battery D, 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery, evades the runner as he fires the ball to first base, attempting to make a double play during the Men's Company Level Softball Tournament last week.

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neutral steer turns. This maneuver causes significant damage to plants and soils. And lastly, do everything possible to prevent wildfires. By starting a fire you are giving away your position to any opposing forces. Wildfires can also be damaging to certain grassland birds, such as the Henslow's sparrow.

Fort Riley has a great thing going for both the military training mission and the environment. It is getting more and more positive attention everyday from other branches of the Army and environmental organizations, such as the American Bird Conservancy and the Wildlife Society. Now that we are in the spotlight, we need to

strive more than ever to maintain the quality of our training lands and be proactive toward future environmental issues that could potentially cause loss of training lands.

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Fort Riley Community



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Spc. Joshua Lower explains the use of the camping equipment on display at the Civil War era encampment set up by the Fort Riley Honor Guard in front of the U.S. Cavalry Museum, Saturday. The encampment featured soldiers in period uniforms and camp quarters.

Encampment educates visitors

The officer's tent, the largest tent on display at the encampment, was used for planning battles and writing correspondence during wartime. (Far right) Sgt. Gabriel Lincoln adjusts the reins of his horse, Chief, behind a Civil War era enlisted soldier's tent.



Honor guard soldiers show off capabilities

By Jamie Bender
Staff writer

The Fort Riley Honor Guard held a Civil War style encampment Saturday in front of the U.S. Cavalry Museum featuring soldiers in period uniforms and displays of soldier camp quarters.

"This is an opportunity for the people on post to see what the honor guard does at other events," said Bill McKale, director, U.S. Cavalry Museum.

The soldiers were available to answer questions about the encampment and the honor guard. "Most people are surprised by how small the wagon is. They can't believe that people got around in something like that," said Spc. Kevin Bliss, a FRHG member.

"We get a lot of questions about the horses. People who have a lot of experience with horses ask more in-depth questions, but mostly people want to know their names and ages, and that kind of thing," said Spc. Joshua Lower, also a FRHG soldier.

Soldiers of many Military Occupational Specialties join the FRHG.

Bliss is a generator mechanic and has been with the honor guard for about four months. "I am enjoying it so far," he said. "Working with the horses is great."

"Working with the horses is what makes it worthwhile," said Lower, a cavalry scout with 2nd Battalion, 70th Armor. "This is my time machine. I get to do my job as it was done in the beginning," he said. Lower has been with the honor guard for over a year.

The FRHG was established in 1992 to provide a glimpse into the history of Fort Riley. The troopers and horses are outfitted in the uniforms and equipment of the Civil War era. The soldiers perform at reenactments and official ceremonies, demonstrating horsemanship maneuvers learned from manuals used by Civil War cavalrymen.

Honor guard members wear wool/cotton blend uniform jackets patterned in 1854. The blue trousers have a yellow stripe that indicates an enlisted soldier's rank. The wider the stripe, the higher the soldier's rank. Officer's trousers have yellow cord along the outside seam. The forage cap, copied from a popular style in the French Army, tops off the uniform. Short ankle boots finish it.

Permission from first line supervisors must be obtained in order to join the honor guard, said Sgt. Gabriel Lincoln, a member of FRHG. Once you have permission, a riding test is given, said Lincoln. "It isn't so much to see if you can ride, but to see if you have what it takes to learn," he said.

If the tests are passed, you receive a letter of approval to take to your company commander Lincoln said. It must be approved all the way from the company to the brigade, he said.

"Sgt. Maj. Hearon is the final step for approval," Lincoln added. Command Sgt. Maj. Richard Hearon is the command sergeant major for the 24th Infantry Division and Fort Riley.

A tour with the honor guard is 12 to 18 months, according to Lincoln. And, he said a soldier in the honor guard will participate in well over 200 events during the tour.

Tours will showcase several Fort Riley historical quarters

By Jamie Bender
Staff writer

The Historical and Archeological Society of Fort Riley will host a tour of six of the post's historical homes Sept. 29, 2 - 5 p.m.

The tour will begin on Sheridan Avenue at Custer House, building 24. Nametags and programs will be handed out and visitors will be divided into groups

of approximately 10 each, said Rachelle Boslego, president of HASFR and tour coordinator.

A guide will take each group to six more homes. A volunteer from HASFR will take the visitors to the floor or room that is being showcased, and will talk about the history, architecture and any other interesting facts of the home, said Boslego. "These are very old homes."

"This is the first tour we have

done in a few years," Boslego added. "It is something we hope to be able to continue."

The walking tour will take approximately three hours and will conclude at Quarters 1, where refreshments will be served. Quarters 1 will be open for the visitors to tour as well, said Boslego.

For more information or to RSVP, Boslego can be reached at 717-2818.



Quarters 4 is one of six homes that will be part of the Fort Riley Historical and Archeological Society historic homes tour Sept. 29, 2 - 5 p.m.

Open House to offer apple pies, many activities for visitors

By Jason Shepherd
19th PAD

Whether going on a historic tour through the Custer House, eating a warm slice of apple pie, reminiscing with veterans, listening to a DJ, learning about weapons or watching re-enactments, there is something for everyone at this year's Fort Riley Apple Day.

Fort Riley's Fall Open House on Sept. 28, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. will kick-off the beginning of the post's 150th anniversary marking. "When the past meets the present."

Maj. Gen. Thomas F. Metz, commanding general, 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) and Fort Riley said it's important to host the Open House this time of year because of the high turnover.

"Fort Riley has received a large number of new soldiers and families over the summer," he said. "The Fall Open House will showcase to them what Fort Riley has to offer."

An Expo tent will be set up in the center of Cavalry Parade Field on Main Post to introduce new soldiers to the training and readiness, support links and quality of life programs and activities that Fort Riley offers, according to Brad Carlton, chief of garrison activities.

The Open House will also feature an apple pie bake sale

where people can purchase whole apple pies for \$7, or pies by the slice and alomade.

The Fort Riley Historical and Archeological Society will sell around 1,000 apple pies in all, which they are making Sept. 10-12. Volunteers are still needed, said Marlee Marshall, FRHAS member.

Pre-pie sales are now underway for \$7. Frozen pies can be picked up Sept. 17 at the corner of Holbrook and Pershing.

Visitors can also tour historic sites of Fort Riley, including the U.S. Cavalry Museum, U.S. Regimental and Constabulary Museum, Custer House, an outdoor historic vehicle display and a self-guided walking tour of historic Main Post.

Fort Riley will also open its chapels during the Open House. St. Mary's Chapel, the oldest on Fort Riley, reflects catholic worship and the Main Post Chapel reflects protestant, according to Chap. (Lt. Col.) Daniel Paul, chaplain, 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) and Fort Riley.

Both chapels have beautiful stain glass windows and plaques of those who played a pivotal role in Fort Riley history, Paul said.

"These chapels represent our country's religious heritage and the importance worshipping God has in our military history," he said.

"From the Revolutionary War, before our country became

a country, we had chaplains to assist our military soldiers and their family members."

The Fort Riley Honor Guard will put on several demonstrations throughout the day at a living history mid-1800's cavalry encampment, which will feature authentic tents, period equipment, uniforms and horses.

The honor guard will also demonstrate their equestrian skills and saber drills at 11 a.m., 1 and 3 p.m.

There will also be an "Own the Night" demonstration where visitors enter a darkened room, complete with obstacles, map reading challenges and observation points.

Visitors can also see an emergency equipment display, including police response teams, military working dogs, bomb disposal robotics and fire rescue teams.

Other activities at Open House will include flyovers from various Air Force aircraft, an obstacle course, where children can put on camouflage face paint and negotiate obstacles and weapons firing stations where, using blank ammunition, visitors can fire an array of military weapons at pop-up targets at different distances.

For more information of the Open House or Apple Day, call 239-2022.

To order apple pies, e-mail appledaypie@cs.com or call 717-3263.





Cyan Magenta Yellow Black



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ITR

Worlds of Fun

Worlds of Fun prices are falling. The Fall Special is valid through Oct. 27. Tickets will be valid at Worlds of Fun Saturdays and Sundays through Oct. 27. What's more fun than a summer bursting with rides, shows and attractions? Fall weekends filled with tricks, treats and spooky shows! HALLOWEEEKENDS can be enjoyed by the littlest of ghouls to the oldest of goblins. BOO! BLAST! in the Scandinavian section of the park, is an area just for kids under 12, providing innocent Halloween delights. HALLOWEEN HAUNT, located in the African section, offers frightful fun for older kids and adults. HALLOWEEEKENDS creep into Worlds of Fun weekends Sept. 21 - Oct. 27.

Wings Over Topeka

Wings Over Topeka "Family Freedom Day" has a two-fold mission: To thank American citizens for their support of the Armed Forces and to thank veterans of all conflicts for their service. The new, daylong event, which begins when the gates open

at 10 a.m. on Sept. 28, at Forbes Field, Topeka, involves an air show, a concert and a fireworks display. The air show consists of three elite demonstration teams considered among the world's best at performing aerial stunts: The U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds, Canadian Snowbirds and U.S. Army Golden Knights, plus many more. Aircraft and other military equipment from across the nation will be on display. Tickets are now available through ITR.

Renaissance Festival

Visit the 16th century village of Canterbury at the Renaissance Festival, every weekend through Oct. 14. The festival is situated on nearly 16 acres of shaded lanes. Browse and shop from over 160 artisans and their handcrafted wares. Entertainment awaits with over 13 stages, as well as live interaction with the colorful characters roaming the lanes of the village! This year brings the return of Robin Hood and his merry-men! Be a spectator at the Ultimate Gladiator Games! Witness live jousting in the dynamic new jousting arena at the Renaissance Down! Discount tickets are available through ITR. Ticket

prices are: adults \$12 and children, 5-12, \$5.50.

Carnival Cruise

Carnival Cruises are the most fun a family can have on land or sea. If you love sharing fun times with your children, then you should take a "Fun Ship" cruise. No vacation in the world is more carefree, more fun for everyone or a greater vacation value. Since one low price covers just about everything (including the complete Camp Carnival program), you don't have to worry about all the endless expenses of an ordinary resort vacation, which really adds up fast when you travel with children. Stop by ITR and pick up a cruise brochure.

McCain Auditorium

Tickets available for all performances through ITR for McCain Auditorium performances at Kansas State University, Manhattan. Stop by and pick up complete performance schedule.
Sept. 27 - Modern Mandolin Quartet
Oct. 5 - Venice Baroque Orchestra
Oct. 13 La Boheme

Oct. 18 Kansas City Ballet
Oct. 23 South Pacific

Kansas City Chiefs

Tickets are still available for all home games. Stop by ITR for schedule.

Leisure Commercial Travel

Booking travel via the Internet is becoming the fastest growing way for consumers to travel. The key to finding fares is to check around. There are a whole host of resources to assist in finding the lowest fare, such as toll free numbers, airline Websites and Internet fare finder sites. A computer kiosk is available at ITR for customer use in booking airline tickets through the Internet. Stop by or call ITR for assistance in booking

your commercial travel.

Discount Movie Tickets

Passes may be used at Carmike Cinemas in Manhattan and Westside Twin in Junction City. Cost is \$5 for J.C. and \$5.50 for Manhattan. These are great savings on evening shows. A savings of up to \$2 per ticket.

Branson, Mo.

As one of the top vacation destinations in the country, Branson offers a wealth of diverse entertainment. Whether your idea of entertainment is being dazzled, dropping a line in a secluded cove, spending a day with your family at one of the attractions, teeing off at a championship golf course or finding a great deal at one of the are retailers, Branson is second to none in its scope of

exciting activities. Let ITR put together a military discounted weekend package.

Kansas Cosmosphere

Kansas Cosmosphere and Space Center is located in Hutchinson, and is quickly becoming the most comprehensive space museum in the world. It is not just what you'd expect to find on the open prairies of Kansas. And, that's the point exactly.

From the jaw-dropping Hall of Space Museum and incredible IMAX Dome theater to the million-dollar multimedia Planetarium, the Cosmosphere is an all-day, all-ages adventure.

Hold on tight, you're go for lift-off!

Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$11 for children, ages 4-12.

Gilliam to perform in Herington

Les Gilliam, the official "Oklahoma Balladeer," so designated by the Oklahoma State Legislature, is a singer, songwriter and recording artist. Gilliam tells fascinating stories about country music, cowboy and gospel music and the artist who performed them. He always includes original songs and humorous material in his performances, adding a touch of nostalgia with good ole fashion patriotism. Gilliam will be performing Sept. 21, 7 p.m., with Gail Burns and the BJ-4 country band at the Herington Hilltop Auditorium.

Gilliam has been voted one of the top five male performers in western music by the Western Music Association. He has recorded six albums as well as

two videos. Gilliam is a member of the Oklahoma Arts Council Touring Program as well as the Heartland Arts Alliance, based in Kansas City. He has performed in the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.; Silver Dollar City in Branson, Mo.; The International Country Music Festival in Gene Autry, Okla.; The Bakersfield Opry in California; Western Music Hall of Fame in Oklahoma City and the Oklahoma Music Hall of Fame in Muskogee, just to name a few.

The performance in Herington will be a country music show and advance discount tickets are available at the Tri-County Chamber of Commerce, Main Street office, Herington, until 5 p.m. Sept. 20. Regular tickets can be purchased

at the door.

Les Gilliam will also be performing a Gospel Jubilee Show on Sept. 22, 1:30 p.m., which will be in Memory of Teen Donahue, who wrote "The Kansas Waltz." Discount tickets for the Gospel Jubilee can only be purchased Sept. 22 at the Jamboree performance. Proceeds will go the Tri-County Arts.

Herington is putting on a special weekend with Les Gilliam the official

"Oklahoma Balladeer," at the Hilltop Auditorium at the corner of Walnut and A Streets. If you like western music, you won't want to miss this event in Herington. For additional questions please call 239-3463.



Scouts Andrew Michaels, 15, Shane Brown, 12 and Taylor Mitchell, 15, of Fort Riley Boy Scout Troop 60, help replace rotting boards at Locomotive 6072 in Wyman Park. The work was part of a community service project. "It's nice restoring the history of Fort Riley," said Mitchell.

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Middle school football team practicing for first game of season

By Steven Cooke

Staff Writer

In preparation for the upcoming season, the Fort Riley Middle School football team began practice Aug. 19.

"It's going pretty well," said Jimmy Goheen, head football coach. "Some kids are picking things up quickly. Some are struggling."

Which is o.k., explained Goheen.

"Most of the kids haven't played before. So we start from scratch," explained Goheen. "We teach them how to play; some kids don't even know the basics. We focus on the fundamentals. We help each kid figure out their

position."
In order to accomplish this, the 7th and 8th grade teams practice Monday through Friday for three hours each day, 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. "Sometimes on Saturdays," said Goheen.

Goheen explained that he focuses on the competition aspect of the game with the 60 players at practice.

"The focus is on competing," said Goheen. "With the 7th graders, we put more emphasis on everyone playing. But for 8th graders, in preparation for 9th grade football, it's more emphasis on earning your position."

Goheen explained that the players don't try out to be on the team, they try out for positions,

and most players have a position.

Goheen, an art teacher at the middle school, said that he enjoys interacting with the kids in a different environment.

"I like working with the kids on a different level outside of the classroom," said Goheen. "I like to see the kids compete."

Competition is one of the benefits Goheen believes the kids get out of football. He also believes they get much more.

"They learn to be competitive," said Goheen. "They also learn how to be part of a team. They learn discipline. A lot of kids don't do much physically, so they develop more physically."

Goheen went on to speak about

other benefits of playing football.

"It's an incentive to do well in school. They have the guidance from a coach telling them they can't play if they don't do well in school," he said.

One of the challenges of working with the kids is getting them to give their all.

"A challenge is getting the kids to put forth the effort," said Goheen. "A lot of kids don't know what it's like to put forth 100 percent."

Goheen said he noticed a major difference between Fort Riley Middle School and the other local

middle schools.

"At other schools the kids grew up together, but our kids are always moving, mixing up the dynamics," said Goheen. "We are trying to get the kids to trust each other. Not be individuals."

One of the ways Goheen deals with this is talking about it and implementing team-building exercises.

"We talk about it and do drills that are team oriented," he said. "We do drills that are fun, so they play together and get to know each other."

"We like to have parents

involved," said Goheen. "We encourage our parents to come to the games and watch practices. Having them be supportive of what we're doing as a team and trying to accomplish can only make things better."

"We make [fun] a priority," said Goheen. "We know if they're not having fun it reflects on how they play the game and how they view the game."

Fort Riley Middle School kicked off its new football season Thursday with an 8th grade game against Manhattan Anthony Middle School.

Diaz, continued from page 9

"I used to play with them, so it was weird playing for the Army and knowing six of the other players," said Diaz.

Despite losing that first game, Diaz was happy with his performance.

"I was starting at shortstop and two for two," said Diaz.

As it turned out, the Army team, the returning champions, ended up taking the bronze medal. The Air Force took the gold and the Marines took the silver.

For Diaz, there were several memorable moments from his experience.

"In one of the tournaments in Texas, I was given the golden glove award for best defensive player," said Diaz. "That was special because the team votes who they think was the best."

Another memorable aspect of the experience was the comradery.

"The comradery was most memorable. I'll never forget it," said Diaz. "You only have a couple of weeks to bond as a team. These were guys from all over that I'll never see again. But the level of comradery was high."

"The coaches were two of the best coaches I ever worked with."

said Diaz. "They knew the game; every aspect of the game - they knew."

Diaz said that he was proud to represent Fort Riley and his unit also. He said he couldn't have competed if not for their support.

"I want to thank my unit. My unit was called to fight fires in Oregon, but they still let me go," said Diaz.

One soldier in particular provided much needed guidance to Diaz's through his experience.

"Staff Sgt. Brickhouse was like my mentor," said Diaz. "Whenever

er I was in a (bad) mood, he would calm me down. He would tell me what I needed to do. I was calling him every week from camp."

Diaz' comrades at Fort Riley were confident he would do a good job.

"They were all proud of me; really happy I was selected to represent Fort Riley. They told me they knew I would make the team. It was just a matter of how bad I wanted it."



Post/Coode

Fort Riley Middle School athletes practice football after school. The players were preparing for their first game of the season, which was played yesterday. See next week's Post for results of that game.

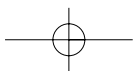
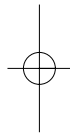
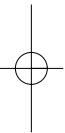


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